to be or ... ?

Pacer columnist Justin Hunt discusses the worth of a modern college education

page 2

10 things

The Pacer's Life crew breaks down a list of 10 things, this week highlighting 10 random facts about UTM

page 5

NFL column

The Pacer weighs in on the NFL lockout and offers commentary on what's next

page 7

the pacer

Independent voice of the University of Tennessee at Martin

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Recycling on the rise

Recycle Barn supervisor Dennis Kosta tours the recycling facility, complete with murals painted by "Murals by Les." (Pacer photo/Sarah Rowland)

UTM's 'big barn' continues to grow

Sarah Rowland
Staff Writer

"As a university we should be setting the standard," said UTM's Dennis Kosta, custodial services manager and supervisor of the Recycle Barn, about UTM recycling efforts.

Recycling has become an important part of the current culture and UTM students and faculty are working hard to bring recycling to Martin and the surrounding area, a service that is expensive and hard to provide in a small community, Kosta said.

"We've got a recycling group here on campus and we're focusing and spreading out across town and you can see the people that come from the community and the other schools ... it's affecting a whole northwest part of Tennessee because we are the recycling center for this area. We say we're student-run and with the university, but everything we do takes care of this area," Kosta said.

Since 1991, the Recycling Barn has grown in its output of recyclable material. Kosta said in 1991 the barn produced 51 tons of material and in 2010 produced 550 tons of material.

Kosta emphasized the importance of a lot of people working together to make this possible. He estimated about 50 people drop off recyclables per day.

"It's just amazing the different people that come to our recycle plant because it's here on campus and yet we open it to the general public," he said.

"We put bins in the elementary schools here in town. We put bins in the schools in Dresden. So we're trying to promote recycling within the community."

Kosta spends time on the UTM campus and within the Weakley county community promoting the benefits of recycling and teaching people how to recycle.

He said he works with groups such as school groups, Cub Scouts, Boy Scouts, church groups, and others, as well as speaking to at least 20 classes per semester within UTM.

see Recycling page 3

TOP: Having taken in 550 tons of material last year, the recycling barn utilizes a trash compactor to make the best use of space.

BOTTOM: Dennis Kosta and UTM student Brad Winter tour the building. (Pacer photos/ Sarah Rowland)

Jackson to get solar powered this week

JACKSON (AP) — The largest solar electrical generation plant within the seven-state Tennessee Valley Authority is now in Jackson and is scheduled to begin generating electricity this week.

The 5.5-acre solar farm is located at 96 American Drive, on the north side of Flex Drive across from the north entrance of Procter & Gamble.

The solar farm is divided into two sections. One will supply electricity directly to the TVA. The other will supply electricity to an adjoining warehouse and plant, once the home of American Olean and Dal-Tile. The plant is now owned by Jackson Industrial Holdings, a subsidiary of New York-based Meridian Development Partners, said Michael Katz, managing director. This is the company's first venture into solar electric generation for individual buildings and power grids.

"Lessons from here will be used on other properties," he said.

Those lessons will help Meridian and other companies turn abandoned warehouses into fully or partially self-sustainable warehouses, giving new life to thousands of abandoned properties throughout the nation, he said.

"The overabundance of vacant industrial property in this country is huge," said Katz, whose company specializes in purchasing and rehabilitating industrial property. "Doing this will help rejuvenate them for new uses the former (owners) did not see."

The first section of the solar farm contains 4,704 Sharp solar panels manufactured in Memphis, said Robbie Thomas, president of Efficient Energy of Tennessee, which is installing the electrical generation farm. Each of the panels is capable of generating 224 watts that can produce a total of 1,000 kilowatt hours of direct current power hourly, he said. These panels are connected to the TVA grid through power lines provided by Jackson Energy Authority.

The TVA will pay the daily market rate for the electricity produced by the solar panels and also for renewable energy credits created by the solar farm to National Energy Group, the farm's owner, Thomas said. He did not know the amount of either on Thursday.

The second section of the solar farm contains 210 panels capable of producing 47 kilowatts of DC power each hour. This section of panels will be connected directly to the former Dal-Tile warehouse to supplement electrical power provided to the building, Thomas said.

The total cost to construct the solar farm is about $5 million, he said. The federal government will reimburse about $1.5 million, or 30 percent, in federal grants, Thomas said. No state or local grants were provided to offset the cost of installation, he said.

Meridian Development Partners bought the former Dal-Tile building in the summer of 2007, Katz said. The warehouse has ceilings ranging from 18 feet to 29 feet high. Katz said his company will redesign the building's interior to suit multiple tenants instead of one industrial client.

see Solar page 3

(Provided photo/WPSD)

Local liquor store burns

Layton Scarbrough
Advertising Sales

New Year's Eve is usually a busy time for liquor stores. This was not the case this time for The Wine Cellar in Fulton, Ky.

Early on Dec. 31, The Wine Cellar, at 505 West Highland Drive, caught fire and burned to the ground. The business has been owned and operated by Jay Shah and his family for the past 12 years. The family was "devastated" when they received the call.

Long-time employee Dwain Derevage left three hours before the fire began, but returned in the early morning hours to help Shah.

"I really can't put words on it," Derevage said.

Shah spent most of the day looking around at his business in shock. Even strangers like Holly Scribner took notice of the Shahs' loss.

"It's very humbling to see this," Scribner said. She works nearby and said she is praying for her neighbors.

"It is better to end the year with something bad than to begin it with something bad," Scribner said.

It is believed the fire originated in the attic, but the cause is still under investigation.

Fulton City Manager Kenney Etherton, who is also the current fire

see Fire page 3

onlinePOLL

How does your spring semester schedule look?

- Simple. This will be my easiest semester yet.
- Impossible. This semester may just be the end of me.
- Eh. It's just another semester.

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Wednesday Weather

40 | 28

Tomorrow, expect mostly cloudy skies with a high of 36 and low of 18. Friday, partly cloudy with a high of 27.

Inside

Viewpoints 2
Editorial 2
News 3,4
Bulletin Board 4
Life 5
Sports 7

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Editorial

Weathering winter while awaiting spring

Seasoned students returning to UTM this week know all too well the frustration that accompanies the first few weeks of classes.

Among parking issues, class scheduling conflicts and general logistical headaches, any student who's at least a sophomore can tell you, quite frankly, what a pain in the ass these first couple of weeks will be.

We at *The Pacer*, however, urge you to remain calm: In time it will pass.

The parking usually gets easier after a week or two (although campus construction, particularly at the Paul Meek Library and the Fine Arts Building is limiting parking options) and class schedules will always get worked out (although not always to your liking).

We've already heard whoops of joy as well as complaints from students who have or have not yet received their treasured refund checks.

We've already heard our professors (wink, wink) expressing their dismay at not being ready to go back to class, either.

To top it all off, students (and everyone else around here) will have the unforgiving cold biting at their faces as they travel around campus for the next few weeks.

Yes, the spring semester has finally started and, compared to the beginning of fall, the general "get up and go" period at the beginning of the semester is much harder to deal with in the winter.

Why?

When it's cold outside, we don't want to go there. We want hot chocolate, hot tea, hot coffee, hot toddies (ha ha), and a nice, long, warm nap. We want to be inside, NOT in an overly warm classroom where we will get yelled at for sleeping during our professors' oh-so-stimulating lectures.

In other words, this is the SAD time of year when all of us suffer some degree of seasonal affective disorder, and none of us really want to do much of anything constructive.

So, as we said, stay calm and just weather the winter. Spring will spring eventually.

Why UTM should consider growing more farmers (not fewer)

Arthur W. Hunt III
Guest Columnist

About once a week I ride my bike for two hours on a circuit that entails a fair portion of Weakley County. What is most striking to me is how even though I live in "farm country" I see very few farmers. I see big tractors that take up the entire road and look like machines from the first episode of *Star Wars*, but very few sunburned and straw-hatted men and women walking around on the top of the ground.

My uncle was a farmer, and he had mules and chickens and cows and corn and tobacco and ponds and frogs and what seemed to me to be a very diversified and lovely piece of land. This was back in the 1960s before Secretary of Agriculture Earl Butz told the little farmer to "get big or get out."

I guess they listened to the secretary because there are now fewer than 2 million farmers in America. Heck, there are more people in prison in this country than there are farmers. And that is a very interesting fact in the face of our current recession, high unemployment rate and the many students who are wondering what they will do with themselves on graduation day.

Two hundred years ago, 90 percent of all work in America was done on a farm. Today, the majority of our food comes from a handful of large corporate entities like Cargill, Archer-Daniels-Midland Co., Monsanto and ConAgra. Farmers sign a contract with a company at the beginning of the season, which makes them beholden to corporate interests.

Those who refuse to sign a company contract often find there is no market for their product, given that the same company or its subsidiary controls purchasing and distribution. In this modern-day system of serfdom, the little farmer fights an uphill battle.

Food is now an industrial product (as opposed to a natural or cultural product) and because of this there is a tendency for corporations to justify the exploitation of land, animals, and human communities. While it is possible to cram a million chickens into a metal building half the size of a Wal-Mart store, it has never been natural for a chicken to live this way. The same could be said for cows or pigs.

According to "The Essential Agrarian Reader," negative consequences of industrialized agriculture include a) the exhaustion or destruction of our land base; b) massive erosion rates; c) depletion of soil quality; d) loss of soil fertility; e) loss of topsoil (which can never be regained); f) water contamination because of agricultural runoff; g) dependence on fossil fuels in food distribution; h) depletion and/or contamination of public water supplies; i) the heavy use of antibiotics and hormones in meat and dairy products; j) overstressing livestock by crowding them into spaces that are unnatural to their normal existence; k) and breeding stock from a limited gene pool.

Industrialized agriculture is not sustainable in the long run. First, the system is environmentally insecure. Second, any extensive, highly centralized system of industrial agriculture is vulnerable to acts of terrorism. The question that should concern us is not how the world will be fed, but who will control the land. Should this control be placed in the hands of a few or in the hands of many?

There is a small but growing movement in this country toward community supported agriculture (CSAs) where markets are established between local farmers and consumers.

This new alternative needs both food producers and willing buyers. For CSAs to thrive there needs to be policies toward individual and common ownership of the food base (as opposed to large corporate ownership), discontinued government support of mega-corporate farms, and the rewarding and incentive granting of small family-owned farms and community-run farms.

Small can be a hard sell in a world of Big Macs, megachurches, and multinational conglomerates, but small can also be beautiful (as well as profitable). Writer-farmer Wendell Berry has observed that while a typical factory farm might make a huge investment and go into debt to realize a profit of $20,000 or $30,000 on the sale of 12 million chickens, he knows of a small family-owned- and -run farm that can produce 2,000 pastured high-quality chickens for a profit of $6,000 with little investment for housing or equipment, no large debt, no contract, and no environmental destruction.

How can UTM play a role in the local food movement and sustainable agriculture? First, it can educate students toward small farming. Also, it can use a small portion of its assets to purchase land in Weakley County for the purpose of leasing it back to young people who want to have a go at farming but don't have the capital to get started. Finally, UTM can provide a local market for the small farmer by purchasing his or her produce.

In these difficult economic times, farming as a vocation should be more accessible to young people.

Dr. Arthur W. Hunt III is Associate Professor of Communications at UTM.

College is not for everyone ... but not a 'bad' thing

Justin Hunt
Viewpoints Editor

Coming to UTM, I received exactly what the happy, Photo-shopped college-goer on the website's homepage told me I would: small class sizes and a friendly atmosphere.

Let me tell you something you will never see on the UTM homepage: a smiling student with a corresponding caption reading, "I wish I had chosen a school with rigorous academics, fewer dropouts, and a competitive classroom environment that encouraged me to do more than the bare minimum to pass a class. Dang."

Now, please don't mistake that as badmouthing UTM. A more accurate assessment would be that I am badmouthing many postsecondary institutions (primarily government-funded schools). After talking with friends who attend universities other than UTM, I came to the consensus that they felt the same way about their respective schools, too.

Let me explain myself.

Problem 1. All of my classes are brimming with students who only want to do the bare minimum. "What will it take for me to get a 'C' in this class?" "How many classes can I skip before I receive a failing grade?" "I have to read from a book?!" These types of students could not care less about "learning" as long as they can get that degree with their name printed on it. When a classroom is full of students like this, how can you expect a stimulating learning environment?

No one seems excited to be in class. No one wants to put forth the effort to turn an average research paper into a great research paper. It is blatant apathy, and the kicker is that *they don't care that they don't care*.

Problem 2. Grade inflation. Most of my classes have been formulated in one way — if you do the assignments, come to class, and make an effort, you will get an "A." In the recent New York Times article, "A Quest to Explain What Grades Really Mean," Andrew Perrin, a professor at UNC Chapel Hill, responds to grade inflation by saying, "An 'A' should mean outstanding work; it should not be the default grade. If everyone gets an 'A' for adequate completion of tasks, it cripples our ability to recognize exemplary scholarship."

In the seven semesters I have spent here at UTM, only a few classes have actually challenged me. To me, a challenging class is simply one where: 1) If I miss a single lecture, I have missed something important. I can't just pick up where I left off without getting notes for the lecture I missed. 2) I spend large amounts of time outside the classroom working on assignments and preparing for the next lecture. 3) The professor impacts me in such a way that I am required (but really … *desire*) to turn in assignments dripping with excellence.

Almost every class I have taken is the opposite of challenging. In fact, most students go into a class expecting to get an "A," not because of hard work, but because it's what they are "supposed" to get for attending and doing the work.

Problem 3. Everyone and his brother and his sister and his cousin are being admitted to college. It's my understanding that public universities and colleges receive government funding based on their enrollment numbers — for most states, anyway. So, naturally, administrators have gotten to the point where admittance to their university is based on criteria like: 1. You must be a human being. 2. You must be alive.

Of course, I am joking, but, essentially, colleges and universities are trying to maximize enrollment, and consequently, increasing the amount of allocated monies for the school.

The result? Universities are filling their classrooms with people who shouldn't be there, and incentives like the lottery scholarship are giving students who shouldn't go to college the chance to attend. Just because the opportunity is available does not mean you have to take it. These people are going to college because they can, not because they need to.

The truth? College isn't for everyone, but that is not a "bad" thing.

A degree does not establish superiority or inferiority between two people. There is nothing wrong with entering the work force right after high school.

Society runs on skilled labor and craftsman jobs and could not function without them; there is a quiet nobility to being an auto mechanic or a plumber.

Problem 4. With so many people graduating from college, a bachelor's degree has lost its value. If everyone has a bachelor's, what makes it so special?

(Of course, UTM doesn't have to worry about this problem as much because more students at UTM drop out or fail than graduate. In 2010, UTM's graduation rate was 45.2 percent).

Nowadays, a college degree is not even enough. In order to even have a chance at beating competition for a job, it has become almost necessary to get a master's degree.

Where do we begin to fix problems like these? I don't know. Let someone who's going to college figure it out.

Make your New Year's resolutions achievable by focusing on the little things

Rachel Stephens
Guest Columnist

It's cold and gray outside. The Christmas lights have all been taken down. The last of the champagne has been consumed. Now it's everyone's "favorite" time of year – ok let's be honest for half a second. It's the time of the year that everyone dreads. It's time to make your New Year's Resolutions. I don't usually buy into this trend because, honestly, let's face it, I am pretty awesome and don't need to change.

But in all seriousness, since I am graduating in May, I have been thinking quite a bit about what kind of changes I need to make.

But who came up with this idea of completely reinventing ourselves every 365 days? Somehow we have gotten in our minds that no matter what we have done the year before, we can always do better. We WILL work out more. Forget the fact that we don't even know where our tennis shoes are. We are going to stop smoking. Let's not talk about the fact that you've tried quitting. We are going to volunteer more. How easily we conveniently forget that the reason we have never volunteered before is because most of our Saturdays are spent praying to the porcelain throne, vowing we will quit drinking so much.

But, we are in college and that party the first weekend of school looks so inviting and everyone you know will be there. That resolution is out the window. We WILL lose weight and be beach ready by Spring Break.

Again, it's easy to forget about sunny, warm Spring Break when we're running late or having a bad day or that pizza your roommate is eating smells so good.

Each year we make and break the same New Year's Resolutions. This year, why don't we take a new perspective on how to make the resolutions. I have decided to make a to-do list. It is an easier, more practical way to measure your success. I know that I get frustrated when I make lofty goals that I never seem to accomplish. Traditional resolutions are too out there. They are too easy to go back on and when you fall off the wagon and start to waver in your dedication, too hard to get back on track. I plan on making a monthly to-do list and include fun things.

For example, this month I decided to watch five movies I've never seen before but have always been on list that I will eventually get around to seeing. Instead of resolving to lose weight, I am making a to-do list that includes going to work out at the Student Rec center on the days I don't have class. I'm going to make it fun, take a friend, and participate in one of the free classes that Campus Rec offers like Zumba or spinning.

I also plan on focusing on things I have done right in the last year and improving on them. There are going to be enough things that don't go your way in 2011. I mean it is the next-to-last year that will end the world as we know it, so why not start off the year in a way that leads to success, at least in the little things? But hey, what do I know? I'm graduating in May, or at least that's what my to-do list says.

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News

Issues may make gov's road rocky

NASHVILLE (AP) — Tennessee Republicans now hold control of both chambers of the Legislature and the governor's office for the first time since 1869. So nothing but a smooth road ahead for new Gov. Bill Haslam's agenda, right?

Not so fast, say his predecessors.

"Just because the Legislature is of the same party as the governor doesn't mean they'll always agree," said Republican U.S. Sen. Lamar Alexander, who was Tennessee governor from 1979 to 1987. "There are always problems between a governor and the Legislature, and I'm sure he'll have his share."

Haslam will have to conduct a delicate balancing act in the governor's office in pushing his own priorities while trying to politely deflect the ones he objects to without offending his GOP colleagues in the Legislature.

"Governing is hard and messy, and never works out quite the way you hope it will," Alexander said. "But the big opportunity is there."

Fellow Republican Don Sundquist, who was governor from 1995 to 2003, called the new GOP control of the Legislature "a great opportunity, but it comes with some burdens as well."

Both Alexander and Sundquist forged strong working relationships with the leadership of what were then solid Democratic majorities in both chambers of the Legislature.

Gov. Bill Haslam

"There's different problems with your party in charge — but given a choice, I'd take that every time," said Sundquist, who ultimately ran afoul with many in his own party for supporting failed efforts to impose a state income tax during his second term.

Democrat Ned McWherter made the unusual jump from state House speaker to governor in 1987 and served two terms. He said he quickly drew a line with former legislative colleagues who might have thought they could exert new influence in the executive branch.

"I let everybody know who was boss," said McWherter, who held the governorship until 1994. "You never use power until you have to use it. And then when you do, you use it as strong as you know how. That's always been my philosophy.

"If I'm responsible for running state government, then that's what I'll do," he said.

"I'll try to work everything out, compromise and get along with everybody. But if you have to drop that gavel or that hammer, you do it."

Fellow Democrat Phil Bredesen came into office in 2003 following several years of legislative battles and street protests over the income tax proposals.

"The Legislature was so beaten down that they were much more willing to take direction at that point than they would at the end," he said.

Bredesen said his biggest early challenge was that his goals did not always overlap with the traditional aims of his Democratic colleagues in the Legislature, such as the changes he won in the workers' compensation program.

Republican gains in Bredesen's second term created a different sort of assertiveness in the Legislature, this time forcing Bredesen to take a more defensive stance against proposals he disagreed with, like allowing people with handgun carry permits to be armed in bars and restaurants that serve alcohol or requiring all driver's license tests to be conducted in English.

"The issue of a Legislature exerting more and more control over things is very real," Bredesen said.

Bredesen said he resisted the strategy of simply setting himself up against the Legislature, especially when he first came into office.

"It would have been a good time to play against them because their popularity was at like 6 percent," he said.

Haslam acknowledges the difference between his dealings with the nine-member Knoxville City Council when he was mayor there compared to what he faces with the increasingly acrimonious 132-member General Assembly. That increased scope will make it impossible to allow every member individual input into all key issues.

"You can't have 132 cooks," Haslam said. "If you do, it's hard to get the meal out on time."

But Haslam said close contacts with lawmakers can also make difficult decisions — like the pending budget cuts — easier to achieve.

Haslam stands to benefit from the election of Rep. Beth Harwell, a Nashville Republican who is one of his stronger allies in the Legislature, as speaker of the House.

But even Harwell cautioned that there will be differences along the way.

"I'm very supportive of Gov. Haslam; I want to see him successful," she said. "I want to help him, but I understand the role of the Legislature, I understand legislative debate."

"The founding fathers had three distinct branches of government for a reason," she said.

"We have a job to do."

UTM added to Community Engagement Classification

University Relations

MARTIN – The Carnegie Foundation recently selected UTM for the 2010 Community Engagement Classification.

The campus is one of 115 institutions that will now be added to the Community Engagement Classification, bringing the national total to 311. UTM will then be among the top 10 percent in the nation so classified for its community engagement.

"Our Institute for Civic Engagement leadership team worked tirelessly to document the many outside-of-the-classroom activities in which our faculty and students are participating, and this is a great way to begin 2011," said Dr. Jerald Ogg, vice chancellor for Academic Affairs.

"UT Martin has a long tradition of preparing its graduates for lives of leadership and service, and it's gratifying to be recognized for that by an organization with the rich history of The Carnegie Foundation."

The classification for Community Engagement is an elective classification, meaning it is based on voluntary participation by institutions. Whereas the foundation's all-inclusive classifications involve secondary analysis of existing national data sources available for all institutions, elective classifications involve additional data collection and documentation, with substantial effort invested by participating institutions. Elective classifications enable the foundation's classification system to recognize important aspects of institutional mission and action that are not represented in the national data.

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1905 and chartered in 1906 by an Act of Congress, The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching is an independent policy and research center. Its current mission is to support needed transformations in American education through tighter connections between teaching practice, evidence of student learning, the communication and use of this evidence, and structured opportunities to build knowledge.

Dr. King reminds Americans to promote peace

ATLANTA (AP) — The Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy as a preacher of peace and tolerance was lauded Monday as Americans marked his memorial day just over a week after the shootings in Arizona that killed six people and seriously wounded a congresswoman.

Attorney General Eric Holder, speaking at King's former church in Atlanta, praised him as "our nation's greatest drum major of peace" and said the Jan. 8 bloodshed was a call to recommit to King's values of nonviolence, tolerance, compassion and justice.

"Last week a senseless rampage in Tucson reminded us that more than 40 years after Dr. King's own tragic death, our struggle to eradicate violence and to promote peace goes on," Holder said.

President Barack Obama, in Washington, said part of King's legacy was about service and urged Americans to get out into their communities — a step he suggested would have special meaning following the shootings.

"After a painful week where so many of us were focused on the tragedy, it's good for us to remind ourselves of what this country is all about," he told reporters as he and first lady Michelle Obama took part in a painting project at a school on Capitol Hill.

National and local politicians joined members of the King family at Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta to mark what would have been the civil rights icon's 82nd birthday.

Members of the King family also laid a wreath at the tombs of King and his widow, Coretta Scott King, on the 25th anniversary of the federal holiday established to honor the 1964 Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Rep. John Lewis of Georgia, who worked with King during the civil rights movement, issued a renewed call for Americans to unite in peace and love as King preached during his lifetime.

"If Dr. King could speak to us today, he would tell us that it does not matter how much we disapprove of another person's point of view, there is never a reason to deny another human being the respect he or she deserves," Lewis said.

The Rev. Raphael Warnock, pastor of Ebenezer, called for members of Congress to show solidarity during the State of the Union address this month. Quoting the Bible and Abraham Lincoln, Warnock said, "A house divided against itself cannot stand."

"Maybe after Arizona what our children need to see is us sitting together," Warnock said.

Coloradans marked the day with marches and parades in Denver and Greeley, and the National Western Stock Show was set to host its annual Martin Luther King Jr. African-American Heritage Rodeo on Monday evening.

King is the only American who was not a U.S. president to have a federal holiday named in his honor. He has been recognized on the third Monday in January since 1986.

Recycling

From Cover

Kosta said last year the recycle barn hosted a drawing among a boy scouts troop for five bicycles. Every time a boy of the troop brought recyclables to the barn he could enter his name in the drawing. The more he recycled, the better his chances of winning a bicycle.

He said from this one of the mothers involved with the troop told him she can't stop recycling now.

He emphasized the importance for promoting recycling is working one-on-one with people. He said if he can influence five to ten people then they can influence five to ten people.

"Then we'll make a change, and hopefully a better change for our environment and our community."

Kosta said the barn employs four to five student workers who help sort the material, along with volunteers, and prepare it for different companies that haul whatever material they need away, such as a company in Clarksville that uses glass material to make new tile, said a student worker with the Recycle Barn.

The Recycle Barn takes all types of recyclable material:

•Any plastic materials (such as food bottles, shampoo and conditioner bottles, milk jugs, coffee containers, plastic bags)

•Any paper materials (including cardboard materials such as cereal and food boxes, moving boxes, etc.)

•Electronics (such as computers and cell phones)

•Aluminum and tin cans

•Glass material

All material can be dropped off in the bins located around campus or at the recycle barn 24 hours a day. If the barn is closed, material can be left outside the barn to be sorted the next day.

Fire

From Cover

chief, said the fire was in the store's attic at first.

Firefighters from Fulton Fire Department were the first to arrive on the scene. Etherton said that within 3 to 5 minutes the fire broke through the back of the roof.

The South Fulton Fire Department responded by automatic mutual aid to assist in extinguishing the blaze.

Officials also called the Union City and Clinton, Ky., fire departments for aerial support. The Cayce, Ky., and Water Valley, Ky., fire departments were called for manpower.

Strong wind blowing from the wrong direction made fighting the fire difficult. Firefighters remained on scene for many hours fighting hot spots and one firefighter was taken to the hospital and treated for smoke inhalation.

Shah says it is too early to decide if the store will be rebuilt.

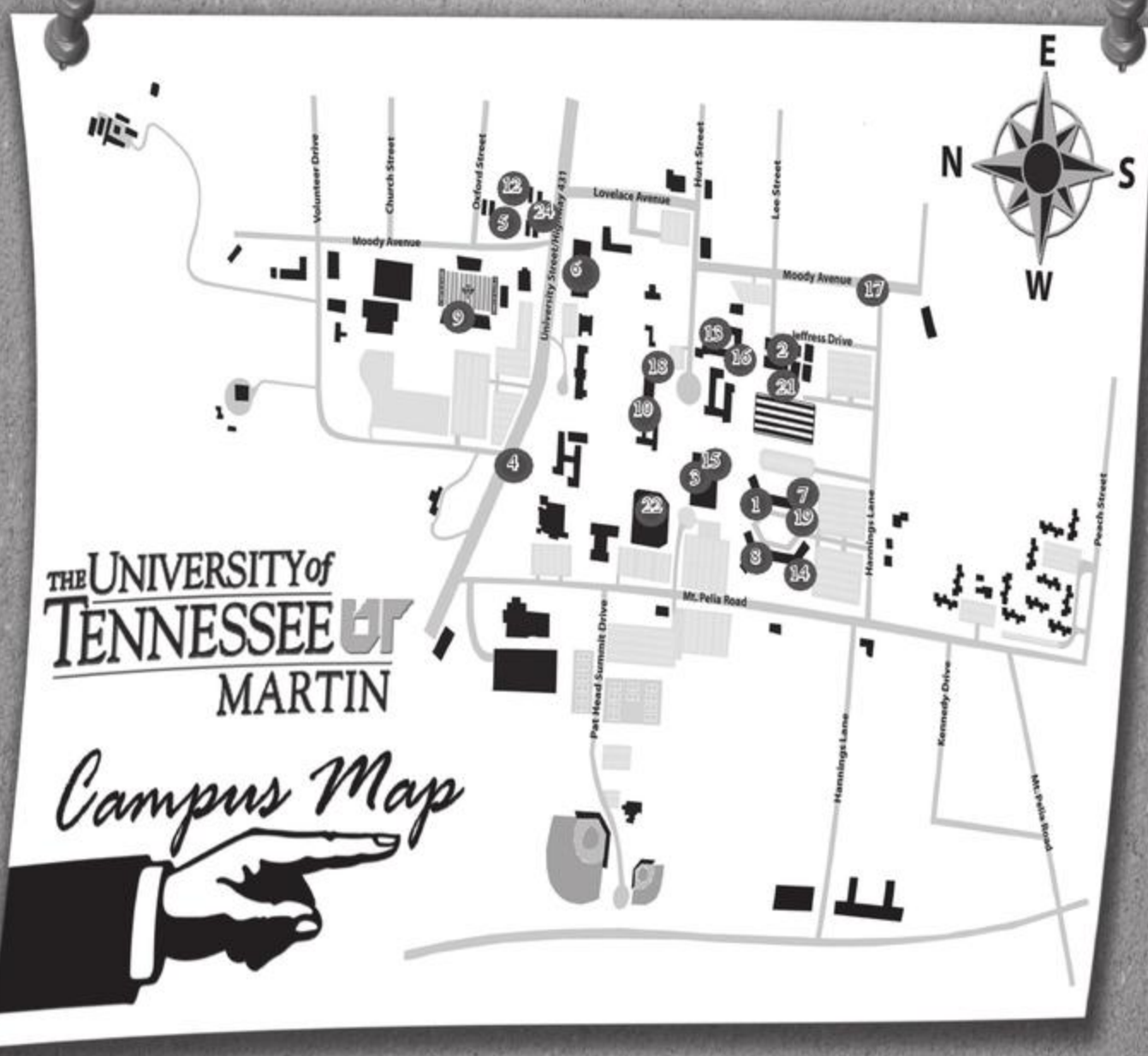
Solar

From Cover

A portion of the former Dal-Tile warehouse currently is being leased to one company for storage. There are no other businesses inside the main building at this time, Katz said.

But the building is in a highly visible industrial park, it has a railroad spur to its east and Interstate 40 is less than eight miles to the north. The addition of the renewable energy source that will help offset the daily cost of operations should make finding future tenants for the building even easier, Katz said.

"Jackson is the hub of an automotive nexus that seems to be reasserting itself," he said, "and renewable energy sources are now a big part of a company's strategy."



POLICE REPORT

1 12-3-10 at 9 a.m. – Lot 7 (Ellington) – A vehicle was repossessed for lack of payment.

2 12-6-10 at 9:39 a.m. – Lot 10 (University Village Phase 1) A vehicle was towed because of an excessive number of parking tickets.

3 12-7-10 at 5:51 p.m. – University Center -Subject reported campus identification card lost. Lost and found records were checked and the card has not been turned in.

4 12-7-10 at 7:58 a.m. – University Street -Subject issued a citation for a crosswalk violation. (City Court)

5 12-7-10 at 4:57 p.m. – Grove Apartments – Subject reported that ex-roommate left with some of subject's personal property. The ex-roommate will be contacted and advised

6 12-9-10 at 12:02 p.m. – Gooch Hall – Report of a subject who was feeling weak and had fallen. Officers and EMS responded and treated the subject at the scene. Subject was taken to the hospital by a friend.

7 12-9-10 at 4:51 p.m. – Ellington Hall – Subject reported the theft of two textbooks. Investigation continues.

8 12-10-10 at 3 p.m. – Browning Hall – Subject reported the theft of a bicycle. Investigation continues.

9 12-10-10 at 8:29 p.m. – Lot 1 (Football Stadium) – Report of a hit-and-run accident involving two vehicles. Investigation continues.

10 12-13-10 at 11 a.m. – Crisp Hall – Subject reported being harassed by a former student. Former student was charged with stalking.

11 12-14-10 at 11:28 a.m. – Campus – Subject reported the loss of some University keys. The keys were later found.

12 12-15-10 at 4 p.m. – Grove Apartments – Report of a subject who had slipped and fallen. Subject told officers that no injury occurred and refused EMS response.

13 12-15-10 at 10:43 p.m. – Cooper Hall – Report of an assault that had occurred during an argument. The victim did not want to press charges. Referred to Student Affairs.

14 12-16-10 at 1:53 a.m. – Browning Hall – Subject was transported to the hospital for complications from a previous surgery.

15 12-16-10 at 4:59 p.m. – University Center – Report of a subject who was having difficulty related to being diabetic. Officers and EMS treated the subject at the scene. The subject was later transported home by a friend.

16 12-17-10 at 3:39 a.m. – Cooper Hall – Report of damage to some bicycles on the south side of the dorm. Resolution pending identification of the owners.

17 12-26-10 at 9:44 p.m. – Moody Street – Subject issued a citation for a stop sign violation. (City Court)

18 Fire call -12-30-10 at 11:11 a.m. – Humanities Building – Report the fire alarm was sounding. Officers responded and determined it to be caused by ongoing construction. MFD notified.

19 1-4-11 at 5:53 p.m. – Ellington Hall – Report of a missing adult visitor. A search was initiated and the subject was later located and was fine.

20 1-7-11 at 3:05 p.m. – Campus – Subject reported the loss of University property. Report on file.

21 Fire Call – 1-9-11 at 6:20 p.m. – University Village "G" Unit – Report the smoke alarm was sounding. Determined to be caused by cooking food.

22 1-10-11 at 11:41 a.m. – Library – Report of a subject acting suspiciously. Subject was contacted and identified by officers and advised to depart.

23 1-12-11 at 4 p.m. – Off campus – Subject reported the loss of some personal property. Report on file.

24 1-12-11 at 2:37 p.m. – Grove Apartments "A" Unit – Report of vandalism in one of the apartments. A suspect was identified, but the victim did not want to press charges. The suspect will make restitution for the damage. Referred to Student Affairs.

Note: According to Public Safety, the Paul Meek Library parking lot has been designated as staff-only parking for the Spring 2011 semester because of construction on the library. Commuters who typically parked in the library lot will need to relocate to the lots by Pacer Pond and the tennis courts.

Life

pacer_features@ut.utm.edu

10 things *you may not know about UTM*

Edited by Trevor Smith

1

In 1961, it was the first campus in the University of Tennessee system to begin racial desegregation.

2

Prior to being known as "Pacers" the university's teams were called "Volunteers." The name was changed in 1971, largely due to facts that the teams were often referred to as the "Baby Vols."

3

During WWII, UT Junior College contracted with the Naval War Training Service to help train pilots, who trained in the fields by Westview High School. UTM's mascot is named after the planes they flew, Skyhawk fighter jets.

4 thepacer

In the spring of 2006, The Pacer was named "Best in the South" at the Southeastern Journalism Conference, beating out such schools as Vanderbilt and Mississippi State.

5

Jerry Reese, general manager of the 2007 World Champion New York Giants, is a UTM graduate.

6

In 1940, Paul Meek had been able to sway the Civil Aeronautics Administration into a small Civilian Pilot Training program on campus. In 1943, this program was hastily expanded into one of the many centers for Navy pilot trainees scattered across the country.

7

The very first kindergarten in Martin was held in the Holland McCombs Center, between Gooch Hall and the Hall-Moody Administration Building.

8

In 1927, the City of Martin and Weakley County each promptly agreed to float $100,000 tax bonds, which was used to purchase all the land and buildings that eventually comprised the Hall-Moody campus.

9

Throughout its history, The Pacer has also been named The Checkerboard and The Volette.

10

Margaret Perry was selected as institutional Chancellor in 1985, the first woman to head a UT-system school.

Pacer Graphics/Jennifer DeYeso

"10 things" is a new graphic section we plan to include each week in Life, highlighting a list of ten interesting and random items. If you would like for your ideas to be featured in this section, please submit them to pacer_features@ut.utm.edu

'The Dilemma' has its own set of problems

Trevor Smith
Co-Life Editor

Have you ever been in such an awkward situation that it makes your skin crawl?

You feel that sinking feeling in your gut, you're sitting on the edge of your seat and you wish you could be anywhere in the world right then except for in that spot.

That's what watching "The Dilemma" was like for me.

The movie that sees Vince Vaughn playing a distraught man trying to figure out the right way to tell his best friend, played by Kevin James, that his wife is cheating on him struggles to be the balance between comedy and drama that it was billed as.

Vaughn and James are convincing enough as best friends, but they lack the sort of sincerity that you would expect from such a relationship. Apart from one scene in the bar where they share the dance floor, you only see them fighting one another for the entirety of the film. You can tell there's a friendship there and that it's the kind that makes one person go rough on the other when he needs it, but you don't see the brotherly side of it.

Opposite Vaughn and James are Jennifer Connelly and Wynona Ryder, respectively. Connelly and Vaughn are the most authentic and believable part of this movie.

There's enough chemistry and connection between the two that it feels like you're watching a couple that's truly committed. Ryder and James, however, just feel awkward. It looks more natural to see them fighting than the sparse moments where they show affection and seem happy.

The film isn't completely devoid of laughs, though.

In particular, the fight scene between Vince Vaughn and co-star Channing Tatum includes Vaughn's character escaping by wielding a makeshift blowtorch fashioned with a scented bathroom candle and a body spray can. But, again, this film has tablespoons of drama with just sprinkles of comedy, and it feels disruptive and downright weird.

The most surprising thing about this movie is the direction of Ron Howard, who is among the most respected men in Hollywood. With films like "Apollo 13," "A Beautiful Mind" and "Cinderella Man" under his belt, you're left scratching your head at the slow, overacted, silly mess of a movie that you just got done watching.

To be fair, I absolutely hate this type of movie because of the awkward feeling it inspires, and that's just me. You might enjoy it, but I'd suggest saving that refund money for something else.

entertainmentnext

No Strings Attached
R 108 min.
- Comedy/Romance
- Starring Natalie Portman and Ashton Kutcher
- In theaters Jan. 21

Buried
R 95 min.
- Drama/Mystery/Thriller
- Starring Ryan Reynolds
- Coming to Blu Ray and DVD Jan. 18

Takers
PG-13 107 min.
- Action/Crime/Thriller
- Starring Chris Brown, Hayden Christensen and Matt Dillon
- Coming to Blu Ray and DVD Jan. 18

Pacer Graphics/Jennifer DeYeso

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Sports

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Skyhawk men's basketball team gets first OVC win of season

Sports Information

Senior Reuben Clayton sank a pair of clutch free throws with nine seconds remaining to help The UTM men's basketball team capture its first OVC win of the season in a 63-60 triumph over Jacksonville State at Pete Mathews Coliseum tonight.

Benzor Simmons recorded a game-high 16 points tonight, doing most of his damage from the charity stripe (10-for-11). In a return to his home state, freshman Terence Smith netted 13 points and a game-high five assists, while Troy King also reached double-figures with 10 points. Dane Smith pulled down a game-high 10 rebounds for UTM, who shot 51.4 percent (19-for-37).

Nick Murphy led Jacksonville State with 15 points and seven rebounds, while Jeremy Bynum chipped in 13 points for the Gamecocks (2-16, 0-7 OVC).

With the win , the Skyhawks surpassed their win total from last season.

"We got this win off our backs," UTM head coach Jason James said. "We were able to execute for 40 minutes. It's been a long time coming since we played a whole basketball game. I'm really proud of our young men."

As a team, the Skyhawks showed tremendous balance tonight, as no player attempted more than seven shots.

"Balance is kind of our middle name and we have to be balanced to be good," James said. "When we're balanced, everybody is getting their chance, sharing the ball and taking shots, we're hard to stop and we're pretty good."

UTM's defense made the difference early, as the Skyhawks forced three Jacksonville State turnovers and two missed shots in the game's first 2:32. In that time, UTM had already opened up a 6-0 lead, led by four points from King.

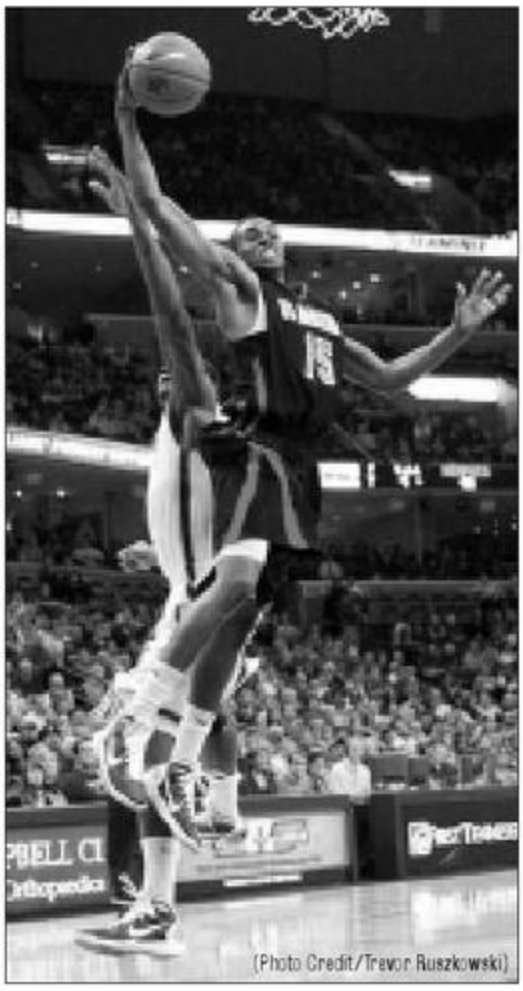
After scoring their first field goal, however, the Gamecocks found a rhythm, putting together a 10-2 run over a span of 3:30 to take a brief 12-10 lead. A pair of Mike Liabo free throws and a free throw by King put UTM back on top, a lead they would not relinquish until almost four minutes later.

Dominique Spellman hit a three-pointer from the left wing with 9:04 left in the half to give Jacksonville State a 20-18 advantage, but Liabo drilled a three-pointer from the right wing just 17 seconds later to give the Skyhawks a one point edge. UTM would push its lead out to five points until an off-balance jumper by Murphy at the 2:16 mark capped off a 7-0 Gamecock run to give Jacksonville State a 29-27 lead.

However, the Skyhawks recovered very well, as an old-fashioned three-point play by Dane Smith on the next possession tilted the lead in UTM's favor at 30-29. That began a stretch where the Skyhawks scored seven of the last eight points of the half to take a 34-30 lead into the locker room at the halftime break.

King and Liabo each scored seven first-half points to lead the Skyhawks, who shot a scorching 62.5 percent (10-for-16) in the game's first 20 minutes. Bynum's eight points paced the Gamecocks.

The Skyhawks extended their lead to five points on two separate occasions until a Simmons jumper with 14:54 to go gave UTM a 40-33 lead. For the next four-plus minutes, the Skyhawk offense went silent - not converting a field goal and allowing Jacksonville State to tie the game at 42-all with 11:23 remaining.


(Photo Credit/Trevor Ruszkowski)

King let fly a three-pointer that connected at the 10:15 mark to propel the Skyhawks back on top by a 45-42 margin, and Simmons followed that with two more free throws to give UTM a five point cushion.

Jacksonville State then scored six unanswered points to take a 48-47 lead, triggering a slew of lead changes. Over the next 1:47, the lead would change hands five times, the last occurring on a Terence Smith three-pointer from the left wing with 4:11 to play.

Two Simmons free throws and a strong drive to the hoop by Terence Smith gave UTM a six point lead, but Jacksonville State came storming right back. Twice the Gamecocks sliced their deficit to two points before a pair of Murphy free throws made the score 61-60 with 43 seconds left.

On the ensuing possession, a Terence Smith jumper rimmed out and Andres Irarrazabal batted the ball in the air and in the middle of a scrum for the loose ball, Liabo emerged with possession and quickly called a timeout with nine seconds to go.

Before the Skyhawks could get the inbounds pass in, Jacksonville State elected to foul Clayton. The senior toed the line and swished both attempts to put UTM ahead 63-60. Jacksonville State's Sean Thurston attempted a desperation three-pointer from the right wing with three ticks left, but the shot caromed off the rim and into the hands of Terence Smith, who dribbled out the rest of the clock to seal the UTM win.

UTM returns to the Kathleen and Tom Elam Center on Thursday, Jan. 20 when it takes on the Southeast Missouri Redhawks at 7 p.m. These two teams met on Jan. 3 in Cape Girardeau, as Southeast Missouri used a late run that resulted in an 82-75 Skyhawk loss.

Women's basketball team comes from 15-point deficit to beat Jacksonville State

Sports Information

Freshman Jasmine Newsome scored a career-high 30 points and led The UTM women's basketball team to a 74-67 victory over host Jacksonville State Saturday afternoon at Pete Matthews Coliseum.

Newsome scored 23 second-half points, but it was a 23-6 run in the first half that helped the Skyhawks overcome a 15-point deficit en route to the victory.

"Jasmine played well and carried us," UTM second-year head coach Kevin McMillan said. "No question."

The deficit was the largest of the season for the Skyhawks who have battled back from double-figures two other times this season. The Skyhawks trailed by 13 points with 13:07 to play in the game at Air Force on Nov. 23 and won 91-87.

The Skyhawks also overcame a 12-point deficit with 11:15 in the first half against Indiana State on Dec. 19 to win 68-66.

"Coach told us at the half, he didn't want to call time out because we were taking good shots, they just weren't falling," Newsome said.

The Skyhawks trailed by 15 points with 12:55 to play in the first half when Jacksonville State's Destiny Lane made a 3-pointer. The Skyhawks went on a 23-6 run and tied the game at 25-all when junior Taylor Hall made a layup with 1:01. Rickiesha Bryant gave the Skyhawks a 27-25 halftime lead when she made a jumper with 18 seconds on the clock.

The Skyhawks forced 12 turnovers in the run while Jacksonville State only scored on three of its last 25 possessions of the half.

(Photo Credit/Trevor Ruszkowski)

Jacksonville State's Brittany Manning opened the second half with a 3-pointer and the Gamecocks led 28-27, but that was the last time they would lead again. The Skyhawks built a 14-point lead when freshman Heather Butler made a layup with 11:02 to play in the game.

The Skyhawks were able to build the lead because of their defense, Newsome said. "We just wanted to put pressure on them and force their mistakes."

At the same time the UTM defense picked up its intensity, Newsome found herself working harder to score.

"In the first half our shots would not fall and it was frustrating," the Millington native said. "For me and several of the others the 3-pointer was not falling, but after I started attacking the basket I was able to score." Newsome scored 23 of her 30 points in the second half.

Butler finished the game with 11 points, while freshman Jaclissa Haislip finished the game with 10 points and a career-high 13 rebounds. The three freshmen combined for 51 of the Skyhawks' 74 points. The freshmen trio combined for 50 of the Skyhawks' 57 points against Tennessee Tech on Thursday, Jan. 13.

Junior college transfers Bryant and Taylor Hall scored eight and seven points respectively. Bryant had nine rebounds and led the Skyhawks to a 49-42 rebounding edge over the Gamecocks.

"Our post play was what tipped the game," McMillan said. "Rickiesha battled on the boards and blocked some big shots for us."

Perica Glenn, Beth Hawn and Shelby Crawford also helped the Skyhawks at the post position today.

Glenn played seven minutes and scored six points and pulled down five rebounds. Hawn, making her second consecutive start, added two points and grabbed three rebounds.

"Perica was very good for her minutes today and I hope we see more of that," McMillan said. "Beth (Hawn) and Shelby (Crawford) also played huge."

Manning led Jacksonville State with 25 points, while Brittany Wiley added 17 points and Lane tossed in 11 points.

Jacksonville State cut the UTM lead to four points two times in the final 1:13 of the game.

"I was proud of our composure and the way we battled back. This is a great win for a young team on the road."

The victory over Jacksonville State was the first for McMillan in three tries.

The Skyhawks will return to the Kathleena and Tom Elam Center Wednesday, Jan. 19, to host Southeast Missouri State.

Tipoff is set for 7:30 p.m.

Column: Lockout looming; fans can only hope

Spencer Taylor
Executive Editor

The other day I held a sobering conversation with one of my friends. It went a little like this:

"So, you're gonna do an NFL column week one, huh?"

"Yep."

"Gonna use this one to talk about the lock out?"

"Well..I guess I hadn't really thought about it."

"I don't really give a damn if they play more or get paid more, I just want the peace of mind that there is going to be NFL football next season."

And so it goes.

Across the nation, NFL fans have started to ask themselves a common question. Patriots fans were the latest to find themselves asking the big one: "When will I get to see my team play again?"

The reality of a lockout now seems more real than ever. For those NFL fans living under a rock the past year and a half, allow me to give you the most simplistic explanation of a pretty damn complicated scenario.

The NFL's Collective Bargaining Agreement expires in March of this year and currently no CBA has been agreed on to replace it. The two primary combatants in the fight, the NFL Player's Association (NFLPA) and the league itself are both interested in constructing a new CBA to benefit themselves: players want a larger share of the profits whereas owners wish to see changes such as an 18 game regular season schedule. The natural arguments against both is that players are played way too much as it as and that an extended schedule would be detrimental to a game that has now more than ever faced criticism regarding player health and safety.

The story is more complicated, and if you really want to know more about it I direct you to the nearest search engine. Bottom line, owners want one thing, players want another, and unless they come to an agreement the biggest losers will be the fans (as it stands the only thing guaranteed is the 2011 Draft).

In an attempt to foster some hope for NFL fans, I'd like to offer some predictions for the NFL season that may not happen. With any luck, 2011 will be one to remember. If not, I can at least say I gave it my best shot.

1) The St. Louis Rams will make the playoffs. They nearly did it this season, and as bad as their division is, who knows what the bare minimum to win the NFC West will be next season.

2) The Jacksonville Jaguars will win the AFC South. This team has so much going for it, if it were in any other division in the league it would be given the respect it deserves. Garrard may not be the best QB who ever walked the earth, but a solid RB in MJD combined with an underrated receiving corps helps these guys fly under the radar.

3) Tim Tebow may find a new home. Tebow time was pretty "so-so" while it lasted in Denver this season and now that his biggest fan, Josh McDaniels, is in the unemployment line, Tebow could be out of luck in Denver where new team czar John Elway is less than impressed with the former Gator.

see utmpacer.com for more

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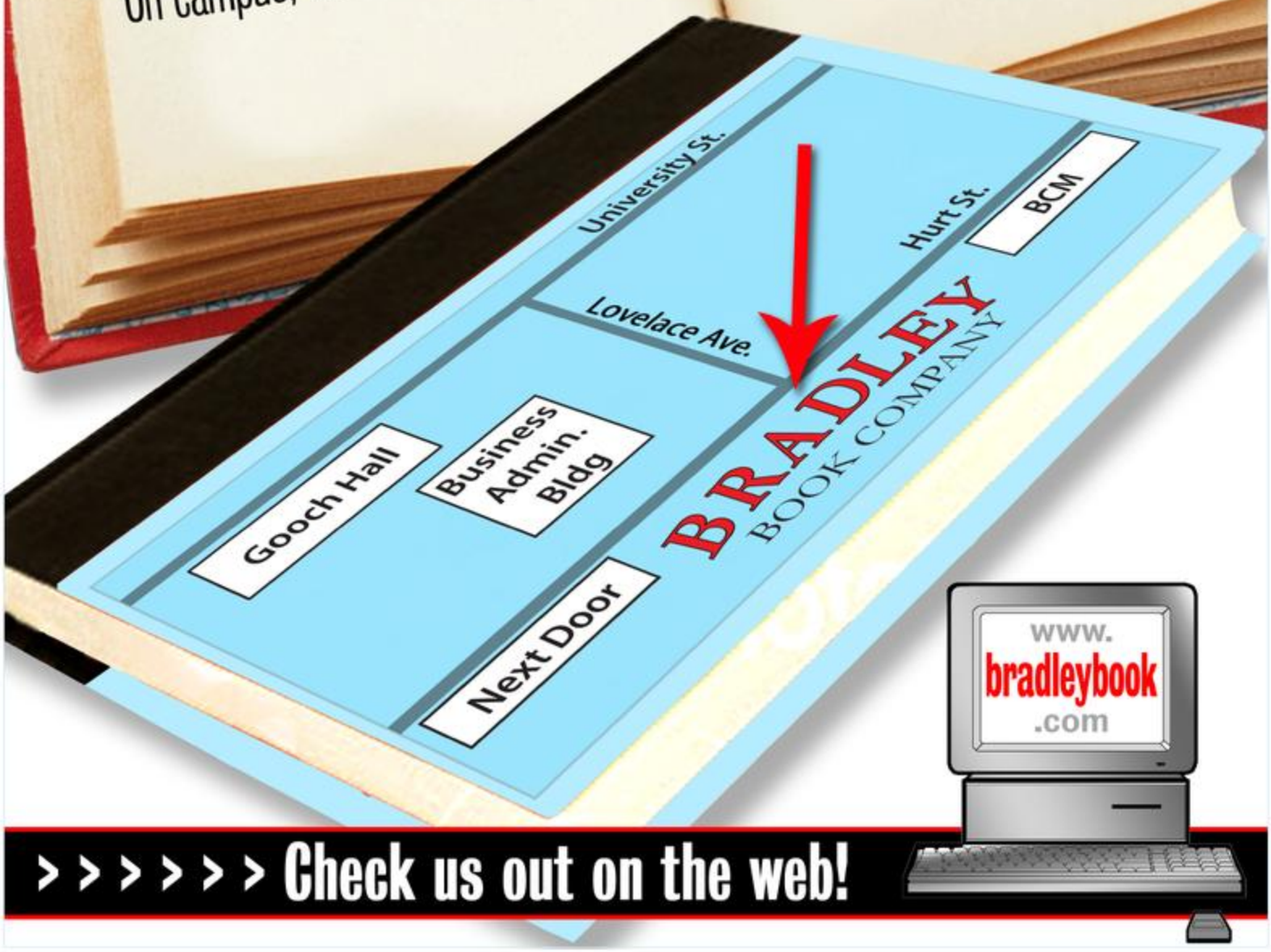

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